Economic Survey—progress of.

24. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state how far has the Economic Survey progressed ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Investigation work has been completed in Nayarambalam and Anthikad. The investigation in Choondal is in progress and is expected to be over by the end of Karkadagam.

The compilation of the statistics collected from Nayarambalam has been nearly completed.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Do they propose to carry on this investigation in all the villages of the State ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—At present the idea is to survey only 4 villages.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.— Does the Government propose to pass piece-meal orders on this, or are they waiting for the receipt of the report until the whole investigation is over ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—As a matter of fact, we have not received any reports yet. The compilation of the statistics collected from Nayarambalam has nearly been completed. That was the first village he visited.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—What will be the approximate time required for the completion of the survey ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—He has finished 2, he has gone to another and he has only to complete one more. I do'nt think it will take much time.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Do they think any more survey is necessary in more than these 4 villages ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I think we will stop with these 4 villages.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—How long was it since this department of survey was started ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I think it is about a year. I speak subject to correction.

Loan from Government—disbursement of.

25. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state how much amount from the five lakhs of rupees set apart for giving loan has already been disbursed ;

2. the number of applicants and the total amount applied for ;

3. have they appointed a Special Officer in connection with this ;

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4. if so, the name of the person appointed and his pay and the date of the appointment ;

5. the total amount spent as pay, T. A., etc., in connection with this till now ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—1. No. amount has been paid till 24th Mithunam 1109.

2. (a) 2,605 applications have been received till 15th Medam 1109.

(b) The total amount is Rs. 49,84,243—12—11.

3. Yes.

4. (a) Mr. C. P. Achyuta Menon.

(b) His permanent pay as Superintendent of Survey and Land Records plus a deputation allowance equal to one-fourth of it, viz. (Rs. 210 plus 52—8—0 = Rs. 262—8—0).

(c) 10th Kumbham 1109.

5. The total amount spent as—

		Rs.	A.	P.
(a)	Pay of the Special Loan Officer	971	4	0
(b)	Establishment	332	11	0
(c)	Travelling allowance	234	0	0
(d)	Contingencies	176	6	0
	Total	1,714	5	0

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know what is the reason for the delay in the disbursement ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The Hon'ble Member will find from the answers that we have so far received 2,605 applications for a total amount of Rs. 49,84,243—12—11. Obviously it is inadvisable to distribute the money as soon as one set of property is investigated, because it will mean that there will be no money available for the last set of applicants. It is therefore inevitable that all the applications should be looked into before we begin the distribution. Otherwise by the time you come to the last there will be no money left.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—What was the last day for receiving applications ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It is over.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Only 5 lakhs have been provided and the applications are for 49 lakhs. How do you propose to distribute the amount ?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Yes, there is only 5 lakhs and to that extent the money will be distributed.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to raise the amount of the loan in view of the large number of applicants?

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Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—There is no present intention.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to consider the point?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I have received no orders from the Government so far as this particular question is concerned.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.— Will the Hon'ble Member for Revenue bring the matter to the notice of the Government and recommend either the whole amount of 49 lakhs or at least an increase in this 5 lakhs may be granted?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—There is a committee which is considering this matter and unless we get the report of the Committee it will obviously be premature to make any recommendations. I may tell the Hon'ble Member that all these 49,84,243 rupees may not be from bona fide applicants. A conclusion can be arrived at only after an investigation of all the applications. Before making any recommendations to the extent of 49 lakhs, I must see the nature of the properties concerned in these applications.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Has the Government any statistics to know the actual indebtedness of the country?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—That is exactly what the Government are going to find out by the Economic Survey.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know whether the loan would be distributed in another 3 months?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I cannot say definitely. But it is expected to be complete by Meenam. That is what the Special Officer assures me. No more than 2 sets of properties can be valued in a day. We have got 2,635 applications. So the only possible alternative to expedite the work is to appoint additional staff. That is also being done.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—How many of these applications have been enquired into till now?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Between 300 and 400.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval—Will it be more advantageous to abandon the idea altogether?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It is a matter of opinion. Attempts are being made to expedite the matter. Three more inspectors are going to be appointed to inspect the properties offered as security.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—In the course of the discussions of the Standing Finance Committee we pointed out the necessity for appointing additional staff to expedite the work in connection with the loan and the Government promised to do so.

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Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I was present there and I do not think that the Government promised. All that they said was they will consider the matter.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Was not this 5 lakhs granted irrespective of the recommendations of the Economic Survey Committee?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It was granted on the initiative of the Government.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—If it is so, will the Government consider the desirability of increasing the grant before the receipt of the Economic Survey Committee's report?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The Government do not think it possible to raise the amount now considering the state of its finances.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—With the increased staff how many applications will be finished in a month?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—We will be able to finish all the preliminary investigations in three months of all the applications. Then there is the valuation and the final calculation. I expect payments to begin somewhere after the end of 6 months.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know whether the Government has come to any conclusion regarding the promised consideration of the acceptance of security consisting of buildings fetching rents?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Government has passed orders that the buildings of Agriculturists may also be taken as security.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Out of these 600 applications investigated how many are found to be bonafides?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Somewhere in the region of 100 and 120.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—What is the total amount of those applications which are bound to be bonafides?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I want notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May we take it that the Government will sympathetically consider the increase in the amount to satisfy the acceptable minimum?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It was promised to be anxiously considered by the Government along with the other report.

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